

Transcript of Nolan's Will (PRO 11/2208 Image Reference 359):

[Transcribed by Dr Douglas J Austin (5th December, 2003)].

[illegible] = Illegible : (.....) = Different handwriting :

 ? = Uncertain character : Underlinings added to aid readability

NOTE : This is a Grant of Probate rather than the original will. The original was written on two sides of a sheet of foolscap paper with, presumably, the codicils on the reverse. That document was probably brought to England by J. Wycliffe Thompson, who left the Crimea on 23rd November, 1854, and returned at the end of July, 1855. (Thanks to Rod Robinson for the information on his movements.) The original may have been returned to Nolan's mother or held by Colonel Key. It may still exist.

The Steamship "Trent" at Sea
27 June 1854

I hereby will and bequeath to my friend Colonel George William Key of the 15th Regt of Hussars (All the property) I may now be possessed of and any property coming to me by right of inheritance. The houses in London the property of my mother are known to George Woodroffe Esq Barister No 1 New Square Lincolns Inn London.

Also an Estate called the Adelphi in the Island of Tobago West Indies

Also any sum of money which may come in on a Suit for ower on the lands of Nolanville in Canada West.

Also the Copyright of a Book called "Cavalry its History and Tactics" published by Bosworth.

I further declare that no one shall have any claim whatever to anything pertaining to me except the said Colonel George William Key and in case of his death this will shall stand good in favour of Mrs George William Key and her children.

(L.E.Nolan Captn. 15th Hussars)

Witness (Chas Wm. Chapman Lieut R.N.)
 (J. Wycliffe Thompson Capt. 10th Royal Hussars)

Witness (J.E. Hope Lieu R.A.)

Witness

N.B. The property in London is now in the hands of Mr William Lane 4 Bedford Place Russell Square.

A Book called "The breaking in of Remount Horses" published by Messrs Turnvale and Partner I leave the Copyright of to Captain Lennox Berkeley
(L.E.Nolan)

Should my death take place previous to that of my mother I make it my last request to my mother that she should make her will in conformity with this one.

(L.E.Nolan)

(In the Goods of Lewis Edward Nolan Esquire deceased.)

Appeared Personally (John Wycliffe Thompson) of Eliot Vale Blackheath in the County of Kent Esquire Brevet Major and Captain in Her Majesty's Tenth Regiment of Royal Hussars

and made an oath that he is a subscribed witness to the last will and testament of Lewis Edward Nolan late of Balaklava in the Crimea Esquire a Captain in Her Majesty's fifteenth Regiment of Hussars deceased such Will written on two sides of a sheet of foolscap paper and having date the twenty and seventh day of June in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty four [illegible] now hereto annexed

and the Deponent referring to the said will and further made oath that on the day of the date of the said will the said deceased then on board the Steam Ship 'Trent' at Sea signed his name thereto in the presence of Charles William Chapman a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy of J.E.Hope a Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery and of this Deponent who thereupon respectively in the presence of the said deceased and of each other signed their names as witnesses to the said will in manner as now appears

And the Deponent with reference to the additions or Codicils to the said will written on the second and third sides thereof respectively signed by the said deceased but without date and unattested the first of such additions or Codicils beginning thus "N.B. the property in London" and ending thus "I leave the copyright of to Cap. Lennox Berkeley" and thus subscribed "L.E.Nolan" the second of such Additions or Codicils beginning thus 'Should my death take place' ending thus 'in conformity with this one' and thus subscribed 'L.E.Nolan' he the Deponent having read and perused the same further made oath that such additions and codicils were not as he best recollects so written at the time of the ????tion of the said will but are as he verily believes of the proper handwriting and subscription of the said deceased he the deponent being able to depone of his knowledge of the said deceased and from having frequently seen him write and subscribe his name

And the deponent lastly made oath that the said deceased from and from some time previously to the date of the said will and up to the time of his death which occurred on the twenty fifth day of October last on the field of battle at Balaklava aforesaid was on actual Military Service abroad in the British Army. (John Wycliffe Thompson Brevet major Captain 10th Royal Hussars) - On the second day of March 1855 the said John Wycliffe Thompson was duly sworn to the truth of this Affidavit before me [illegible].

(In the [illegible] Court of Canterbury)

(In the goods of Lewis Edward Nolan Esquire deceased.)

Appeared Personally George William Key of Southernhay in the parish of St Davids Exeter Esquire and made oath that he knew and was well acquainted with Lewis Edward Nolan late of Balaklava in the Crimea Esquire a captain Staff pay Her Majesty's 15th Regiment of Hussars deceased for some time before and up to the time of his death and was also well acquainted with the manner and character of his handwriting and subscription having frequently seen him write and also subscribe his name

and the Deponent having now viewed and perused the Codicils and Additions to the last Will and Testament the said deceased and which together with the said Will are written on a sheet of foolscap paper now hereto annexed

the first of such Codicils or Additions beginning thus 'N.B. The property in London' ending thus 'I leave the Copyright of to Cap "Lennox Berkeley" and thus subscribed "L.E.Nolan"

the second of such Codicils or Additions beginning thus 'Should my death take place' ending thus 'she should make her will in conformity with this one' And also thus subscribed 'L.E.Nolan'

and the Deponent further made oath that he does verily and in his conscience believe the whole body [illegible] and contents of the said Codicils or Additions and the subscription of 'L.E.Nolan' set and subscribed thereto respectively to be all of the proper handwriting and subscription of the said deceased (G.W.Key) On the tenth day of March 1855 the said George William Key was duly sworn to the truth of this Affidavit by virtue of the [illegible] Commission Before me (Ch: Chas Bartholomew Commissioner.)

On the 23rd March 1855 [illegible] with the Will and two Codicils annexed of the Goods Chattels and Credits of Lewis Edward Nolan late of Balaklava in Crim Tartary Esquire a Captain on Staff pay of Her Majesty's 15th Regiment of Hussars deceased was granted to George William Key Esquire the Residuary Legatee named in the said will having been first sworn by [illegible] duly to administer. No Executor.
